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COUNTRY

Albania/Yugoslavia/Greece

DATE DISTR. 18 MAY 1949

SUBJECT

Politico-Military Information on Albania

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO

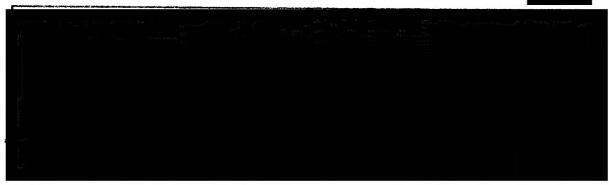
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.





- 25X1X6 1. Reports of serious "clashes" between Albanians and Yugoslav border units in the Peshkop-Diori area, which were most acute between 25-30 January 1949, are confirmed. Units from Tirana and Durres were sent to that area urgently as reinforcements.
  - 2. Marshal Tito is hastily and actively organizing Albanian units in the area of Kossovo to invade and conquer Albania, and to overthrow General Hoxha. For this purpose he released from prison many Albanian nationalists, who can exercise personal influence on the inhabitants of Northern Albania. Among those mentioned are the brother of Nuharrem Bairaktari (a former officer) and Tselossi. Tito is organizing the Kossovo units through them.
  - 3. A special propaganda newspaper is being published, in the Albanian language, at Pristina. This paper is the organ of both the Albanians in Yugoslavia and of Tito; it conducts systematic propaganda preparing the Albanian people for the abolition of the Hoxha regime.
  - 4. Some Albanians involved in the movement for organizing Albanian armed forces against Hoxha fled to Albania not long ago from Yugoslavia, where they betrayed the aims of the movement. Up to then one thousand Albanians had been organized at Kossovo, and were ready to invade Albania as soon as the internal revolution of Koce Xoxe broke. Xoxe was involved in the movement and was secretly collaborating with Tito. Thus the secret action of Xoxe and his followers was revealed, and Hoxha arrested and imprisoned them.
  - 5. Albanian propagenda now turns mainly around this dangerous affair. It keeps on spreading propaganda against Yugoslavia and Tito, who is accused of encouraging the movement of Xoxe, which was detected when it was still in the process of organization. Tito is charged with intending to conquer Albania, with organizing frontier incidents by kidnapping Albanian citizens from Albanian territory, with violating the air-space over Albania, and with organizing a spy-ring in Albania, the headquarters of which is the Yugoslav Legation in Tirana.

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- 6. Recently many followers of Xoxe fled to Yugoslavia secretly to avoid arrest by the Albanian Government and to continue their activities for the overthrow of Enver Hoxha. Many officers and enlisted men of the People's Security Units near the Albanian-Yugoslav frontier also fled to Yugoslavia. On 15 January 1949 a Yugoslav ship picked up fifty Albanian followers of Xoxe near the coast of Shengjin.
- 7. The Greek guerrillas of Grammos are still being supplied with ammunition and material from the Bezhan Depot. The work of establishing a guerrilla hospital in the village of Vitkouki for the treatment of guerrillas who were wounded in Florina started on 15 February 1949, because the hospitals of Korce and Voskopoje are full. Three hundred wounded guerrillas were to be taken there from Korce.
- 8. Great vehicular traffic has recently been observed from Korce to Bilisht and Kyrstalopigi. \*\*\*
- 9. The report that an Albanian Army battalion moved from Barma towards Frasseri against Albanian Nationalist guerrillas in that area is confirmed. The battalion did not make contact because of the snow. The two companies of this battalion returned to Barma on the 18th (of February -?).

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